Origin of the name for Kurudi Hills

The scope of this article is to trace the origin of the name for Kurudi hills. Renowned Lambton peak is located in this hill and it is also the source of the Kousika river. Starting from 13th Century A.D. to 18th Century A.D., Coimbatore region was under the rule of the Hoysalas of Dwarasamudra, the Nayakas of Madurai and the Wodeyars of Mysore. So, the influence of Kannada and Telugu language in the region is to be expected naturally. Kurudi in Kannada language means Cat Thorn Tree, a type of wild jejube tree. Taxonomically, the plant belongs to the Rhamnaceae family. In the Thirupugazh hymn, the hill is referred as Kurudi Hills only. For the past 600 years, the hill name remains the same. Since a wild variety of jejube tree was found abundantly in this hill, it is called as Kurudi Hills. The hills are also known as Kuruma Rishi Hills. In Kannada, the word Kuruma means terrapins or tortoises. Around the year 2017, freshwater terrapins were spotted in the Singanallur lake. So, it is possible that the water in the hills once housed fresh water terrapins. In the Thirupugazh hymn on Kurudi Hills, jumping fresh water species are mentioned in the Kousika river. Possibly, the hymn is referring to the freshwater terrapins.

References:

1) https://www.wisdomlib.org
2) Wild Edible Fruits and their Medicinal Uses in Ballari district of Karnataka by K.Kotresha and M.Siddeshwari.